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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-07 AID-05
PC-01 /111 W
----------200020Z 087680 /64
R 191545Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7618
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY SANA

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAID, ET, UR
SUBJECT: SOVIET ECONOMIC AID TO ETHIOPIA

REF: MOSCOW 6368

1. IN WAKE OF ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION VISIT TO MOSCOW (REFTEL), SOVIET ECONOMIC PRESS SERVICE "TASS VESTNIK" PROVIDES INFORMATION ON SOVIET AID AGREED TO DURING VISIT. SOVIETS ARE TO SUPPLY AID IN CONSTRUCTION OF NUMBER OF NEW PROJECTS AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING PROJECTS BUILT WITH SOVIET AID. WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF AN EARLIER SOVIET CREDIT TO ETHIOPIA, GOODS WORTH UP TO 12 MILLION RUBLES ARE TO BE SUPPLIED AS PARTIAL FINANCING FOR EXPENDITURES OF ETHIOPIAN ORGANIZATIONS ON THESE PROJECTS. SPECIFIC PROJECTS MENTIONED ARE EXPANSION OF ASSAB OIL REFINERY TO A CAPACITY
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OF 1.4 MILLION TONS, DEPENDING ON RESULTS OF SOVIET FEASIBILITY STUDY; CONSTRUCTION OF PLANTS IN MOJJO AREA TO FURTHER PROCESS REFINERY PRODUCTS; CONSTRUCTION OF OIL PIPELINE BETWEEN THE TWO TOWNS; AND CONSTRUCTION OF FIVE OIL STORAGE BASES WITH TOTAL STORAGE CAPACITY OF 65,000 CUBIC METERS.

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2. OTHER SOVIET-AIDED PROJECTS ARE TO BE MECHANIZED WORKING
OF GOLD PLACERS IN ADOLA AREA, RECONSTRUCTION OF TWO MEAT
PACKING PLANTS IN DIREDAWA AND MOLGEWONDE, A TIN CAN MANUFACTURING
FACILITY IN ADDIS ABABA, A PLANT TO PRODUCE
PASTEURIZED MILK AND BUTTER IN BAHR-DAR AREA. SOVIETS
WILL ALSO DO FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR FACTORY TO MANUFACTURE
TRAILER AND MOUNTED AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPLEMENTS.
PROTOCOL ALSO CALLS FOR SOVIET FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF 60,000 HECTARES IN LOWER REACHES OF AWASH
RIVER.

3. THE SOVIET UNION WILL ALSO PROVIDE SPECIALISTS FOR UP
TO THREE YEARS: 15 AS CONSULTANTS TO MINISTRY OF MINES,
POWER AND WATER RESOURCES; 30 TO HELP DEVELOP VETERINARY
SERVICE AND PLANT-PROTECTION SERVICE AND TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE
IN OPERATING OF EXISTING STATE MEAT CANNING ENTERPRISES.
IN ADDITION SOVIETS WILL UNDERTAKE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF
7,200 SQ. KILOMETERS IN ADOLA, AS WELL AS PROSPECTING
WITHIN INDIVIDUAL SECTORS OF THIS AREA.

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO JUDGE
VALUE OF THESE PROJECTS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE
EXPANSION OF OIL REFINERY AND RELATED PROJECTS, NONE OF
THESE STRIKE US AS HIGH-COST ITEMS. FURTHERMORE,
WORDING IN SOVIET PRESS RAISES SOME QUESTION AS TO HOW
MUCH OF THE COSTS WILL ACTUALLY BE COVERED BY SOVIET CREDITS.
NOR IS INFORMATION PROVIDED ON THE TIME FRAME. FROM
EVIDENCE AT HAND SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET COMMITTED THEMSELVES
TO A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT AID EFFORT IN ETHIOPIA. MATLOCK
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: EAID, ET, UR
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